

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 and 14 remain pending in the instant application after the foregoing amendments. Claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice to filing a continuation application on the subject matter of that claim.

The Examiner has stated that Claims 1-6 are allowable and that Claims 7-12 are objected to as being dependent on a subsequent independent claim. The Examiner also suggests that Claim 13 is obvious over the disclosure of WO 00/78740.

Applicants have canceled Claim 13 without prejudice and rewritten Claim 7 in independent form. Applicants have also rewritten Claim 8 in independent form which claims a compound selected from the compounds previously claimed in Claims 8-12. Claims 9-12 now depend on Claim 8 and a newly added Claim 14 also depends on Claim 8 and is directed to the compound previously claimed in Claim 8 before these amendments. In light of these amendments, Applicants respectfully contend that the Examiner's objections and rejections are now moot and should be withdrawn, and that Claims 1-12 and 14 are now in condition for allowance.

If a telephonic communication with the Applicants' representative will advance the prosecution of the instant application, please telephone the representative indicated below. Applicants believe no additional fees are due but the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required in connection with this amendment to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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